

Write proposal

Write rebuttal

Decision to applicant

External Review

Panel considers all information



Applicants write grant funding proposals

Between 1 and 3 external reviewers give **category scores** between 1 (worst) and 7 for:

Significance and innovation	(25%)
Scientific quality	(50%)
Investigator track record	(25%)

These guide a **summary score** between 1-7

Applicants see review comments (not scores) and submit 2 page rebuttal

Panel members (between 7 and 13) from the same discipline assess 60-100 grants. Members with a conflict of interest leave the room

Panel discussion of each grant is led by primary and secondary spokespersons; primary spokesperson was an external reviewer

Spokespersons reveal their **category** and **summary scores**

All panel members give **category** and **summary scores** in a secret ballot

The mean value of all panel members **summary scores** is calculated

All grants are ranked using this score and those above the line are awarded